

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re patent application of:** Nigel Paul Schofield

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**Examiner:** Christopher S. Bobish

**Title:** VACUUM PUMPING SYSTEM AND METHOD OF OPERATING A VACUUM PUMPING ARRANGEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

**RESPONSE**

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed September 30, 2008, Applicant submits the following remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.